

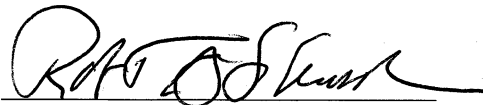
PIPELINE ROUTING PERMIT
FOR
NATURAL GAS PIPELINE
IN
RICE COUNTY, MINNESOTA
ISSUED TO
FARIBAULT ENERGY PARK, LLC
MEQB DOCKET NO. 04-80-PRP-FEP

In accordance with the requirements of Minnesota Statutes section 116I.015 and Minnesota Rules chapter 4415, this Pipeline Routing Permit is hereby issued to

FARIBAULT ENERGY PARK, LLC

Faribault Energy Park, LLC is authorized by this permit to construct a new natural gas pipeline approximately 1000 feet long in Rice County along a route identified in this Routing Permit and in compliance with the conditions specified in this permit.

STATE OF MINNESOTA
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD



Robert A. Schroeder
Chair

Issued: May 20, 2004

I. PIPELINE ROUTING PERMIT

The Minnesota Environmental Quality Board hereby issues this Pipeline Routing Permit to Faribault Energy Park, LLC pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 116I.015 and Minnesota Rules chapter 4415. This permit authorizes FEP to construct a natural gas pipeline and associated facilities approximately 1000 feet long on property owned by FEP in Rice County, Minnesota.

II. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The pipeline authorized to be constructed under this permit will connect the new Faribault Energy Park Generating Facility with an existing natural gas pipeline owned by Northern Natural Gas Company. The FEP pipeline will be approximately 1000 feet long and will be installed completely on property owned by FEP on which the generating facility will be located. The site for the generating facility is more specifically described in the Site Permit for that facility. The pipeline will be a 10 inch (nominal outside diameter) steel pipe designed for a throughput capacity of 5,000 million cubic feet per day, with a maximum throughput of 2,400 million cubic feet per day. The pipeline will be buried underground no less than 54 inches deep. The pipeline is designed for a maximum operating pressure of 720 pounds per square inch gauge and will be operated normally at between 400 and 720 psig. The pipeline is more specifically described in Faribault Energy Park's Natural Gas Pipeline and Partial Exemption Application.

III. DESIGNATED ROUTE

The route designated by the Environmental Quality Board in this permit connects with the Northern Natural Gas pipeline on the northwest corner of the site approved for the proposed power plant, runs south for approximately 600 feet, then turns east for 400 feet until it connects with the plant. A map showing the site designated for the Generating Facility is attached to the Site Permit for that facility.

IV. RIGHT-OF-WAY SELECTION

No new right-of-way can be acquired by Faribault Energy Park for construction of this pipeline. The pipeline shall not at any point be located off the property owned by FEP.

V. EQB REVIEW OF PLAN AND PROFILE AND RIGHT-OF-WAY SPECIFICATIONS

At least 14 days before right-of-way preparation begins, Faribault Energy Park shall provide the EQB with a plan and profile of the right-of-way and the specifications and drawings for right-of-way preparation, construction, cleanup, and restoration for the pipeline. The Permittee may not commence construction until the 14 days has expired or until the EQB has advised the Permittee that it has completed its review of

the plan and profile and specifications and drawings. If the Permittee intends to make any significant changes in its plan and profile or the specifications and drawings for right-of-way preparation, construction, cleanup, and restoration after review by the EQB, the Permittee shall notify the EQB Chair at least five days before implementing the changes. The Permittee shall also provide the Minnesota Office of Pipeline Safety with the information it gives the EQB.

VI. PERMIT DISTRIBUTION

Faribault Energy Park shall, within 10 days of receipt of this pipeline routing permit from the EQB, send a copy of the permit to the office of the auditor of Rice County and the clerk of the City of Faribault.

VII. PERMIT CONDITIONS

The Permittee shall comply with the following conditions during construction of the pipeline and the life of this permit.

1. The Permittee shall comply with all applicable state rules and statutes.
2. The Permittee shall follow those specific construction practices and material specifications described in the Application, unless this Permit establishes a different requirement in which case this Permit shall prevail.
3. At least ten days prior to commencing construction, the Permittee shall advise the EQB in writing of the person or persons designated to be the field representative for the Permittee with the responsibility to oversee compliance with the conditions of this Permit during construction. This person's address, phone number, and emergency phone number shall be provided to the EQB, who may make the information available to local residents and public officials and other interested persons. The Permittee may change its field representative at any time upon written notice to the EQB.
4. The Permittee shall repair all private roads and lands damaged when moving construction equipment to the site.
5. The Permittee shall restore the area affected by the pipeline to minimize runoff and other impacts to the extent compatible with construction and operation of the power plant and associated facilities.
6. The Permittee shall remove all litter and construction debris from the area upon completion of construction.
7. Within sixty days after completion of construction of the facility, the Permittee shall submit copies of all the final as-built plans and specifications

developed during the project.

8. Within sixty days of completion of construction, the Permittee shall submit to the EQB, in the format requested by the EQB, geo-spatial information (GIS compatible maps, GPS coordinates, etc.) for all above ground structures associated with the pipeline, the connection point with the Northern Natural Gas pipeline, the bend where the pipeline turns to the east, and the point at which the pipeline connects with the power plant.

VII. PERMIT AMENDMENT

This permit may be amended at any time by the Environmental Quality Board. Any person may request an amendment of this permit by submitting a request to the Chair in writing describing the amendment sought and the reasons for the amendment. The Chair will mail notice of receipt of the request to the permittee. The EQB may amend the permit after affording the permittee and interested persons such process as is required.

VIII. TRANSFER OF PERMIT

The Permittee may request at any time that the Environmental Quality Board transfer this permit to another person or entity. The Permittee shall provide the name and description of the person or entity to whom the permit is requested to be transferred, the reasons for the transfer, a description of the facilities affected, and the proposed effective date of the transfer. The person to whom the permit is to be transferred shall provide the EQB with such information as the EQB shall require to determine whether the new permittee can comply with the conditions of the permit. The EQB may authorize transfer of the permit after affording the Permittee, the new permittee, and interested persons such process as is required.

IX. REVOCATION OR SUSPENSION OF THE PERMIT

The Environmental Quality Board may initiate action to revoke or suspend this permit at any time. The EQB shall act in accordance with the requirements of Minnesota Rules part 4415.0205 to revoke or suspend the permit.

X. TERMINATION OF EQB JURISDICTION OVER THE PIPELINE

Upon determination by the Permittee that it has completed construction of the pipeline and implemented all applicable requirements of the permit conditions, the Permittee shall file with the EQB a written certification that the permitted pipeline construction has been completed in compliance with all permit conditions. The certification shall be considered by the EQB within 60 days of its filing. The EQB shall accept or reject the certification of completion and make a final determination regarding costs or reimbursements due. If the EQB rejects the certification, it shall inform the Permittee in writing of which deficiencies, if corrected, will allow the

certification to be accepted. When corrections of the deficiencies are completed, the Permittee shall notify the EQB, and the EQB shall reconsider the certification at its next regularly scheduled meeting, provided the notification is received at least 20 days before the meeting. After acceptance of the certification by the EQB, the EQB's jurisdiction over the Permittee's pipeline routing permit shall be terminated. (Minnesota Rules part 4415.0207).

